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**Joint Committee on Academic Planning
Thursday, November 9, 2017
3pm-4:30pm
President's Conference Room
Green Hall
MINUTES**

Members Present: Marilyn Barbour, Laura Beauvais, Ryan Buck, Nancy Eaton, Mayrai Gindy, Dan Graney, Hillary Leonard, Ann Morrissey, Michael Rice, Riley Temple, Nasser Zawia

Members Absent: Donald DeHayes, Oleg Kazakov, Leslie Mahler, Naomi Thompson, Travis Williams

Guests: Matthew Bodah, Interim Vice Provost for Academic Personnel & Budget; Anne Seitsinger, Associate Dean, CEPS

Vice Chair Hillary Leonard called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the meeting held 10/12 /17 were approved without amendment.

NEASC Site Visit Wrap-Up

Vice Provost Matthew Bodah thanked the committee for their participation in the 2017 NEASC Accreditation Review. The visiting team of faculty and administrators from throughout the Northeast were impressed with the student, faculty and staff participation at URI. We will get their preliminary report for our response on December 12th, and the final report to the RI Commission on Postsecondary Education will be on February 28, 2018, with President Dooley attending.

Academic Summit Update

Ann Morrissey updated the committee on the Academic Summit planning process. Our first objective for the Summit is to raise the level of awareness of faculty and staff about the huge changes that are coming with future technology and social change. The second objective will be to see the Summit as a catalyst for thought about the future. Ann Morrissey and Hillary Leonard will continue with the planning process. The budget will be limited, but we hope to engage some inspiring speakers – suggestions welcome.

Proposed Program – Bachelor of Science in Education Policy Studies

Associate Dean Anne Seitsinger, CEPS, appeared in support of the new program. After discussion, the JCAP committee members had some reservations about the proposal as written, but recommend that the proposed program move forward (2 nay votes, 1 abstention) with careful attention to the following concerns:

- Seems vague as currently written; needs more specific details.
- Consider partnering with other URI programs, rather than keeping a narrow focus on education.
- What are the job opportunities that this program leads to?
- Make certain that there is a need for this program; perhaps it might be better as a co-major or a minor.
- Find benchmarking from other institutions on similar programs.

Proposed Program - MA in Education, Administration and Leadership in Communities

Associate Dean Anne Seitsinger, CEPS, appeared in support of the new program. After discussion, the JCAP committee members had some reservations about the proposal as written, but recommend that the proposed program move forward (unanimous) with careful attention to the following concerns:

- Clarify data to ensure there is demand for this program.
- Have a prioritization plan for moving forward, and identify the challenges.
- Look at existing online programs to understand the competition.
- Ensure that the School of Education will not be competing for the same students.
- Consider making it a specialization with in the current MA degree – may not need the new program?
- The “community” part of the title should be revisited as it may need elaboration.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:30p.m.

Next meeting will be December 12, 2017, 10:30am-12noon